

09/807025

JC02 Rec'd PCT/PTO 09 APR 2001

PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Robert Christiaan MAKKUS et al.

Serial No. (unknown)

Filed herewith

METHOD FOR COATING A SUPPORT
PLATE AND FUEL CELL PROVIDED
WITH SUCH A SUPPORT PLATE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the first Official Action and calculation of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1-9.

Add the following new claims:

10.(new) Method for coating a non-oxidised stainless steel support plate with an electrically conducting corrosion-resistant coating, comprising applying a diffusion barrier layer containing a titanium compound, followed by applying a nickel layer, characterised in that applying said diffusion barrier layer comprises the application of a titanium oxide containing compound before applying said nickel layer.

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7/26/01

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